

Appln No. 10/667,072
Amdt date July 21, 2005
Reply to Office action of April 21, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figures 10 and 11. This sheet replaces the original sheet including Figures 10 and 11.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful consideration of this application. In response to the above-identified Office action, Applicants amend the application and seek reconsideration and allowance thereof. In this case, Applicants do not cancel any claims. Applicants amend claims 1 and 18-20. Applicants do not add any new claims. Accordingly, claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

I. OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

The Examiner has objected to Figs. 10 and 11, stating that "only that which is old is illustrated." The Examiner has required that corrected drawings in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(d) be submitted. Applicants submit herewith on a separate sheet of paper replacement Figs. 10 and 11 in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(d). The amended Figs. 10 and 11 include the label 'Prior Art' as requested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to Figs. 10 and 11 be withdrawn.

II. CLAIMS REJECTED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 5,670,842 issued to Matsuura (hereinafter "Matsuura"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims.

To establish a *prima facie* case of anticipation, the Examiner must show that a cited reference teaches each of the elements of a claim. In regard to independent claims 1 and 18,

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these claims, as amended, respectively include the elements of "the predetermined discharge region and the predetermined non-discharge regions being within an area sealed by the frit" and "the discharge region and the non-discharge regions being within an area sealed by a frit." Matsuura does not teach these elements of the claims. Rather, the Examiner states that Matsuura teaches that predetermined non-discharge regions are an area outside of bonding material 13. See paragraph 4 of the Office action mailed April 21, 2005. Thus, the Examiner acknowledges that Matsuura does not teach that a non-discharge region is within the bonding material. Therefore, Matsuura does not teach each element of claims 1 and 18, and these claims are not anticipated by Matsuura. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of claims 1 and 18 are requested.

In regard to claims 2-4, these claims depend from independent claim 1 and incorporate the limitations thereof, in addition to other limitations, which together further patentably distinguish these claims over the cited references. Thus, at least for the reasons mentioned above in regard to independent claim 1, Matsuura does not teach each of the elements of these claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of these claims are requested.

Claims 1-5, 8, 11, 15-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 6,414,434 issued to Nakano et al. (hereinafter "Nakano"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims.

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In regard to independent claims 1 and 18, these claims, as amended, respectively include the elements of "wherein the barrier ribs are mounted at least partly on the discharge region, and at least partly on the non-discharge regions . . . and wherein at least two of the barrier ribs are mounted at least partly on the non-discharge regions" and "a plurality of barrier ribs mounted between the substrates on the non-discharge regions." Nakano does not teach these elements of the claims. Rather, Nakano teaches a first set of partition walls 6 formed entirely within a display area 9 and single partition wall 11 formed entirely outside the display area 9. See Fig. 2 of Nakano. Nakano does not teach multiple partition walls that are "mounted at least partly on the non-discharge regions" or "mounted between the substrates on the non-discharge regions" as respectively recited in claims 1 and 18. Thus, Nakano does not teach each of the elements of claims 1 and 18. Therefore, claims 1 and 18 are not anticipated by Nakano. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of these claims are requested.

In regard to claims 2-5, 8, 11, 15-17 and 20, these claims respectively depend from independent claims 1 and 18 and incorporate the limitations thereof, in addition to other limitations, which together further patentably distinguish these claims over the cited references. Thus, at least for the reasons mentioned above in regard to independent claims 1 and 18, Nakano does not teach each of the elements of these claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of these claims are requested.

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Claims 1-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 6,495,985 issued to Moon (hereinafter "Moon"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims.

In regard to independent claims 1 and 18, these claims, as amended, respectively include the elements of "the predetermined discharge region and the predetermined non-discharge regions being within an area sealed by the frit" and "the discharge region and the non-discharge regions being within an area sealed by a frit." Moon does not teach these elements of the claims. Rather, the Examiner acknowledges that Moon teaches "predetermined discharge regions (area inside of frit layer 71) and predetermined non-discharge regions that surround the discharge region." See paragraph 26 of the Office action mailed April 21, 2005. If the discharge region is inside the frit layer 71 and the non-discharge region surrounds the discharge region, then the non-discharge region of Moon according to the Examiner is outside of the frit layer 71. Thus, Moon does not teach each of the elements of claims 1 and 18. Therefore, claims 1 and 18 are not anticipated by Moon. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of these claims are requested.

In regard to claims 2-17, 19 and 20, these claims respectively depend from independent claims 1 and 18 and incorporate the limitations thereof, in addition to other limitations, which together further patentably distinguish these claims over the cited references. Thus, at least for the reasons mentioned above in regard to independent claims 1 and

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18, Moon does not teach each of the elements of these claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of these claims are requested.


CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims now pending, namely claims 1-20, patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward toward allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (626) 795-9900.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By


Jonathan S. Miller

Reg. No. 48,534

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